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World Crop Production

PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1986/87

WHEAT: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at a record 529.2 million metric tons, up 0.8 million or less than 1 percent from last month and up 6 percent from the 1985/86 harvest. Important changes from a month ago include the following:

- o China Production is estimated at a record 90.3 million tons, up 1.8 million or 2 percent from last month and up 5 percent from last year. The increase is attributed to greater estimated yield based on official State Statistical Bureau data.
- o Afghanistan Production is estimated at 2.5 million tons, down 0.5 million or 17 percent from last month and down 17 percent from last year's crop. The decline is due to lower estimated area and yield.
- o Australia Production is estimated at 16.7 million tons, down 0.6 million or 2 percent from last month, but up 5 percent from last year's crop. The decline is due to lower estimated yields in north and central New South Wales.

COARSE GRAINS: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 835.2 million tons, down 3.6 million or less than 1 percent from last month and down 1 percent from the record 1985/86 harvest. Important changes from a month ago include the following:

*This issue of World Crop Production includes a production feature entitled *
*"1987 Winter Grain Prospects in the Northern Hemisphere Outside the United *
*States" on page 20. *

- o Argentina Production is estimated at 14.0 million tons, down 1.5 million or 9 percent from last month and down 18 percent from last year. The decline is primarily attributed to lower estimated corn and sorghum yields due to poor weather.
- o South Africa Production is estimated at 9.3 million tons, down 1.1 million or 11 percent from last month, but up 5 percent from last year's harvest. The decrease is due to a downward revision in estimated corn and sorghum yields. Dryness has continued in the western Transvaal and southern Orange Free State while areas of eastern Transvaal suffered heavy hail damage.
- o Zimbabwe Production is estimated at 1.6 million tons, down 1.0 million or 39 percent from last month and down 44 percent from last year. Corn area is estimated down in response to changes in Government price policies and the effects of a severe drought that has also sharply reduced estimated yield.
- o Other W. Europe Production is estimated at 12.3 million tons, up 0.2 million or 1 percent from last month, but down 6 percent from last year. The increase is attributed to higher estimated Austrian corn area and yield.

RICE (MILLED-BASIS): World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 317.9 million tons, down 1.0 million or less than 1 percent from last month and down 1 percent from last year's record harvest. Important changes from a month ago include the following:

- o China Production is estimated at 119.8 million tons, down 1.0 million or 1 percent from last month, but up 2 percent from last year. The decrease in yield is attributed to data released by China's State Statistical Bureau.
- o Bangladesh Production is estimated at a record 15.8 million tons, up 0.2 million or 1 percent from last month and up 5 percent from last year. The increase is attributed to record yields from greater irrigated acreage sown to high yielding varieties.
- o Egypt Production is estimated at a record 1.8 million tons, up 0.1 million or 8 percent from last month and up 18 percent from last year. The increase is attributed to greater estimated area in response to a doubling in prices offered by the Government.

o Thailand

Production is estimated at 11.9 million tons, down 0.3 million or 2 percent from last month and down 9 percent from last year. The decrease is attributed to periods of dry weather during the planting and flowering stages of the main season crop.

o Venezuela

Production is estimated at 0.2 million tons, down 0.1 million or 32 percent from last month and down 32 percent from last year. The decrease is attributed to a shift in area away from rice to sorghum in response to Government programs which make production credits more readily available to sorghum producers.

OILSEEDS: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at a near record 196.5 million tons, virtually unchanged from last month, but up less than 1 percent from last year. U.S. production is estimated at 61.3 million tons, unchanged from last month, but down 6 percent from last year. Foreign production is estimated at a record 135.2 million tons, essentially unchanged from last month, but up 4 percent from last year.

- * **Soybeans:** World production for 1986/87 is estimated at a record 100.0 million tons, up 0.5 million or less than 1 percent from last month and up 3 percent from last year. A significant change from last month is the following:

o China

Production is estimated at a record 11.5 million tons, up 0.5 million or 5 percent from last month and up 10 percent from last year. The revision is attributed to higher estimated yield and is based on an official release by the State Statistical Bureau.

- * **Cottonseed:** World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 26.9 million tons, down 67,000 tons or less than 1 percent from last month and down 11 percent from last year.

- * **Peanuts:** World production for 1986/87 is estimated at a near record 20.4 million tons, down 0.2 million or less than 1 percent from last month and last year's record.

- * **Sunflowerseed:** World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 18.9 million tons, down 0.3 million or 2 percent from last month and last year's record. Significant changes from last month are the following:

o Argentina

Production is estimated at 2.5 million tons, down 0.5 million or 17 percent from last month and down 39 percent from the record crop of last year. The decrease is attributed evenly to lower estimated area and yield. Substantial area was flooded by heavy rains during March. Some sunflowers lodged, and standing water in poorly drained areas prevented harvest operations of mature sunflowers.

o Romania

Production is estimated at a record 1.0 million tons, up 150,000 tons or 18 percent from last month and up 41 percent from last year. The increase is attributed to higher estimated yield and is based on an official announcement of production.

- * Rapeseed: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at a record 19.8 million tons, up 74,000 tons or less than 1 percent from last month and up 7 percent from last year.
- * Flaxseed: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 2.7 million tons, down marginally from last month, but up 16 percent from last year.
- * Copra: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 5.3 million tons, down 49,000 tons or almost 1 percent from last month and down 2 percent from last year's record crop.
- * Palm Kernels: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 2.5 million tons, virtually unchanged from last month, but down 1 percent from last year.
- * Palm Oil: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 8.1 million tons, up 83,000 tons or 1 percent from last month, but down 1 percent from last year's record.

COTTON: World production for 1986/87 is estimated at 69.5 million bales, down 0.1 million or less than 1 percent from last month and down 12 percent from 1985/86. Foreign output is estimated at 59.8 million bales, down slightly from last month and down 9 percent from a year ago. Important changes from a month ago include the following:

o Brazil

Production is estimated at 3.3 million bales, down 0.1 million or 3 percent from last month and down 13 percent from last year. Hot, dry weather in January and excessive rains in February damaged yield prospects more than expected.

o United States

Production is estimated at 9.7 million bales, down nearly 0.1 million from last month and down 28 percent from last year. Production is revised downward due to continuing weather problems in the High Plains of Texas which resulted in delayed harvesting and some outright losses.

This report was prepared by the Foreign Production Estimates Division (FPED), FAS/USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Further information may be obtained by writing to the division or by calling (202) 382-8888.

This report draws on information from USDA's global network of agricultural attaches and counselors, official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, and results of office analysis. Estimates of U.S. acreage, yield, and production are from USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board, except where noted. All numbers in this report are based on unrounded data and detail may not add to totals because of rounding.

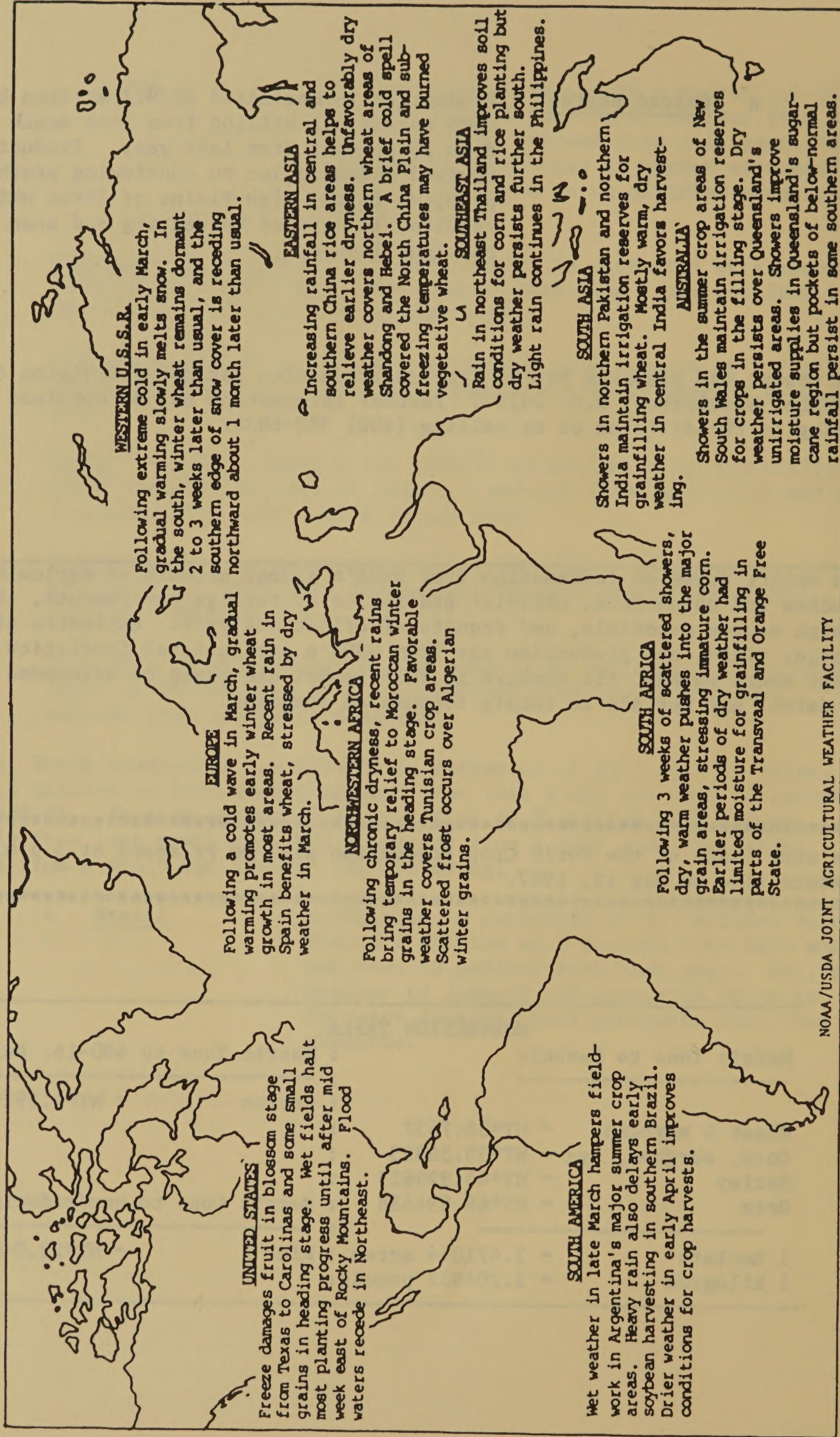
 *The next issue of the World Crop Production will be released at 3 p.m. *
 *eastern time on May 12, 1987. *

CONVERSION TABLE

Metric Tons to Bushels	:	Metric Tons to 480-lb. Bales	:
-----	:	-----	:
	:	Cotton	= MT*4.592917
Wheat & soybeans	= MT*36.7437	:	:
Corn, sorghum, rye	= MT*39.36825	:	:
Barley	= MT*45.929625	:	:
Oats	= MT*68.894438	:	Metric tons to hundredweight
-----	:	-----	:
1 hectare	= 2.471044 acres	:	Rice
1 kilogram	= 2.204622 pounds	:	= MT*22.04622
		:	:

WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

Date APRIL 8, 1987



NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

(More details are available in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Subscription information may be obtained by calling (202) 447-7917.)

U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production 1/

Commodity	--Harvested Area--			--Yield--				--Production--			
	Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	1986 Proj.			Prel.	1986 Proj.		
	1984	1985	1986	1984	1985	Mar.	Apr.	1984	1985	Mar.	Apr.
--Million Acres--			--Busheis per Acre--				--Million Busheis--				
All Wheat	66.9	64.7	60.7	38.8	37.5	34.4	34.4	2,595	2,425	2,087	2,087
Winter	51.5	48.0	43.2	40.0	38.1	35.2	35.2	2,060	1,828	1,519	1,519
Other	15.4	16.8	17.5	34.7	35.6	32.4	32.4	535	597	568	568
Rye	1.0	0.7	0.7	33.1	28.8	28.8	28.8	32	21	19	19
Soybeans	66.1	61.6	59.4	28.1	34.1	33.8	33.8	1,861	2,099	2,007	2,007
Corn	71.9	75.2	69.2	106.7	118.0	119.3	119.3	7,674	8,877	8,253	8,253
Sorghum	15.4	16.8	13.9	56.4	66.8	67.7	67.7	866	1,120	942	942
Barley	11.2	11.6	12.0	53.4	51.0	50.8	50.8	599	591	610	610
Oats	8.2	8.2	6.9	58.0	63.7	56.0	56.0	474	521	385	385
--Million Hectares--			--Metric Tons per Hectare--				--Millions of Metric Tons--				
Total Feedgrains	43.2	45.2	41.3	5.5	6.1	6.1	6.1	236.9	274.4	252.4	252.4
--Million Acres--			--Pounds per Acre--				---Million CWT.---				
Rice	2.8	2.5	2.4	4,954	5,414	5,648	5,648	138.8	134.9	134.4	134.4
							---Million 480-Pound---				
All Cotton	10.4	10.2	8.5	600	630	553	549	13.0	13.4	9.8	9.7

U.S. Planted Area of Major Crops

Year	Wheat					Feedgrains							
	Winter	Other	Total	Rye	Rice	Corn	Sorghum	Barley	Oats	Total	Soybeans	Cotton	Total Maj
													Crops
--Million Acres--													
1984	63.4	15.8	79.2	3.0	2.8	80.5	17.3	12.0	12.4	122.2	67.8	11.1	286.1
1985 prel.	57.8	17.8	75.6	2.6	2.5	83.4	18.3	13.2	13.3	128.1	63.1	10.7	282.6
1986 proj.													
March	53.9	18.1	72.0	2.4	2.4	76.7	15.3	13.1	14.7	119.8	61.5	10.1	268.1
April	53.9	18.1	72.0	2.4	2.4	76.7	15.3	13.1	14.7	119.8	61.5	10.1	268.1

1/ Estimates from USDA Agricultural Statistics Board.

World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Foreign	North America		Europe		USSR	Asia				South America		Selected Other Countries		All Other Countries				
			United States	Canada	Mexico	EC-12		Uth. W.	Eastern Europe	China	India	Indo-Pakistan	Thailand	Argentina	Brazil		Australia	South Africa		
Wheat																				
1984/85	511.6	441.0	70.6	21.2	4.2	82.9	4.5	42.1	66.6	87.8	45.5	.0	10.9	.0	13.2	1.9	16.7	2.2	13.3	24.0
1985/86 prel.	499.0	433.0	66.0	24.3	4.4	71.7	4.1	37.1	76.1	85.8	44.1	.0	11.7	.0	8.5	4.3	16.1	1.7	12.7	28.4
1986/87 proj.																				
March	528.4	471.6	56.8	31.9	4.5	71.5	4.3	39.7	92.3	88.5	46.9	.0	13.9	.0	9.0	5.6	17.3	2.3	14.0	29.9
April	529.2	472.4	56.8	31.9	4.5	71.6	4.3	39.7	92.3	90.3	46.9	.0	13.9	.0	9.0	5.6	16.7	2.3	14.0	29.4
Coarse Grains																				
1984/85	814.1	576.3	237.7	22.0	14.5	69.6	14.0	72.6	90.5	96.2	31.4	5.3	1.6	4.7	18.9	22.5	8.6	9.0	8.3	66.4
1985/86 prel.	844.6	569.7	274.9	25.0	14.7	88.3	13.1	68.3	100.0	82.3	26.1	4.3	1.6	5.7	17.1	20.7	7.8	8.9	8.4	77.5
1986/87 proj.																				
March	835.6	585.9	252.9	27.6	14.5	81.2	12.1	74.1	103.3	86.6	28.0	5.5	1.7	4.4	15.4	26.1	6.9	10.5	9.1	79.0
April	835.2	582.3	252.9	27.6	14.5	81.2	12.3	74.0	103.3	86.6	28.0	5.4	1.7	4.4	14.0	26.1	6.9	9.3	9.3	77.9
Rice (Milled)																				
1984/85	319.2	314.8	4.4	.0	0.2	1.1	.0	0.2	1.8	124.8	58.3	25.9	3.3	13.1	0.3	6.1	0.6	.0	0.2	78.8
1985/86 prel.	320.1	315.8	4.3	.0	0.4	1.3	.0	0.2	1.7	117.9	64.2	26.5	2.9	13.0	0.3	6.8	0.5	.0	0.2	79.9
1986/87 proj.																				
March	316.9	314.6	4.3	.0	0.2	1.3	.0	0.2	1.7	120.8	60.0	26.0	3.5	12.1	0.3	7.1	0.4	.0	0.2	80.7
April	317.9	315.6	4.3	.0	0.2	1.3	.0	0.2	1.7	119.8	60.0	26.1	3.5	11.9	0.3	7.1	0.4	.0	0.2	80.8
Total Grains 1/																				
1984/85	1,644.6	1,332.1	312.7	43.2	18.9	173.6	18.6	115.0	160.9 1/	308.6	135.3	31.2	15.6	17.9	32.3	30.3	27.9	11.2	21.6	169.3
1985/86 prel.	1,663.7	1,318.5	345.2	49.2	19.5	161.3	17.2	105.3	179.8 1/	286.1	134.3	30.9	16.3	18.7	25.9	31.8	24.4	10.5	21.3	185.9
1986/87 proj.																				
March	1,686.1	1,372.1	314.0	59.5	19.3	154.0	16.4	114.0	197.3 1/	295.8	134.8	31.5	19.1	16.5	24.7	38.8	24.6	12.7	23.3	189.7
April	1,682.3	1,366.3	314.0	59.5	19.3	154.1	16.6	114.0	197.3 1/	296.7	134.8	31.5	19.1	16.3	23.2	38.8	24.0	11.6	23.5	188.1
Oilseeds 2/																				
1984/85	190.9	131.7	59.2	5.2	1.1	6.3	0.5	4.8	10.0	31.1	14.7	1.6	2.3	0.5	11.3	20.4	0.9	0.6	1.8	18.6
1985/86 prel.	193.8	130.4	65.4	5.5	1.2	7.1	0.5	4.7	10.8	31.6	13.5	1.6	2.8	0.5	12.4	15.5	0.8	0.5	1.6	19.6
1986/87 proj.																				
March	196.5	135.2	61.3	6.0	0.9	6.0	0.6	5.6	10.6	30.3	14.1	1.8	3.0	0.5	11.6	18.5	0.7	0.7	2.0	20.1
April	196.3	135.2	61.3	6.0	0.9	6.0	0.6	5.8	10.6	30.6	14.1	1.7	3.0	0.5	11.3	18.5	0.7	0.7	2.0	20.0
Cotton																				
1984/85	66.1	75.2	13.0	.0	1.2	0.9	0.0	0.1	11.9	28.7	7.9	.0	4.6	0.1	0.8	4.4	1.1	0.2	2.7	10.5
1985/86 prel.	78.9	65.5	13.4	.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	0.1	12.1	19.0	8.4	.0	5.7	0.2	0.5	3.6	1.2	0.2	2.4	10.0
1986/87 proj.																				
March	69.7	59.9	9.8	.0	0.7	1.2	0.0	0.1	11.2	16.3	7.4	.0	6.1	0.1	0.5	3.4	0.9	0.3	2.2	9.7
April	69.5	59.6	9.7	.0	0.7	1.2	0.0	0.1	11.2	16.3	7.4	.0	6.1	0.1	0.6	3.3	0.9	0.3	2.2	9.7

Includes total of wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above. Estimates of Soviet total grain production, including wheat, coarse grains, rice (rough), minor grains, and pulses are 172.6 million tons in 1984/85, 191.7 million in 1985/86, and 210.1 million forecast in 1986/87.

Totals for major regions and countries include the six major oilseeds shown elsewhere in this report, while world and total foreign also include copra and palm kernels for countries shown plus other countries.

Note: Entries of "0" indicate no reported or insignificant production.

Wheat Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	---Area---			---Yield---				---Production---			
	Prel. Proj.			Prel. 1986/87 Proj.				Prel. 1986/87 Proj.			
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.
	---Million Hectares---			---Metric Tons Per Hectare---				---Million Metric Tons---			
World	231.4	229.8	227.9	2.21	2.17	2.32	2.32	511.6	499.0	528.4	529.2
United States	27.1	26.2	24.6	2.61	2.52	2.31	2.31	70.6	66.0	56.8	56.8
Total Foreign	204.3	203.6	203.3	2.16	2.13	2.32	2.32	441.0	433.0	471.6	472.4
Maj. Foreign Exporters	47.4	46.0	46.2	2.87	2.62	2.80	2.80	136.0	120.6	129.7	129.2
Argentina	6.0	5.3	5.0	2.22	1.61	1.80	1.80	13.2	8.5	9.0	9.0
Australia	12.1	11.7	11.3	1.55	1.38	1.53	1.48	18.7	16.1	17.3	16.7
Canada	13.2	13.7	14.2	1.61	1.77	2.24	2.24	21.2	24.3	31.9	31.9
EC-12	16.2	15.3	15.7	5.13	4.69	4.55	4.56	82.9	71.7	71.5	71.6
Major Importers	98.0	98.1	97.9	2.12	2.17	2.39	2.41	207.4	213.2	234.3	236.1
Brazil	1.8	2.8	3.8	1.09	1.54	1.47	1.47	1.9	4.3	5.6	5.6
China	29.6	29.2	29.7	2.97	2.94	2.98	3.04	87.8	85.8	88.5	90.3
Eastern Europe	10.2	10.2	10.4	4.14	3.65	3.83	3.84	42.1	37.1	39.7	39.7
Egypt	0.5	0.5	0.5	3.70	3.76	3.75	3.80	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9
Other N. Africa */	4.8	5.0	4.6	0.94	1.05	1.16	1.16	4.5	5.2	5.4	5.4
Japan	0.2	0.2	0.2	3.19	3.74	3.56	3.56	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9
USSR	51.1	50.3	48.7	1.34	1.55	1.90	1.90	68.6	78.1	92.3	92.3
Other Foreign	58.9	59.4	59.2	1.66	1.67	1.81	1.81	97.6	99.1	107.7	107.1
India	24.7	23.6	23.1	1.84	1.87	2.03	2.03	45.5	44.1	46.9	46.9
Iran	5.7	5.7	5.8	0.80	0.93	1.03	1.03	4.5	5.3	6.0	6.0
Mexico	1.0	1.1	1.1	4.42	4.19	4.19	4.19	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.5
Non-EC W. Europe	0.9	0.9	1.0	4.93	4.56	4.52	4.53	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.3
Pakistan	7.3	7.4	7.4	1.49	1.58	1.89	1.89	10.9	11.7	13.9	13.9
South Africa	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.16	0.86	1.19	1.19	2.2	1.7	2.3	2.3
Turkey	8.6	8.6	8.7	1.55	1.48	1.61	1.61	13.3	12.7	14.0	14.0
Others	8.9	10.3	10.4	1.41	1.48	1.50	1.48	12.5	15.2	15.6	15.3

*/ Algeria, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.

Coarse Grains Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	---Area---			---Yield---				---Production---			
	Prel. Proj.			Prel. 1986/87 Proj.				Prel. 1986/87 Proj.			
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.
TOTAL COARSE GRAINS 1/	---Million Hectares---			---Metric Tons Per Hectare---				---Million Metric Tons---			
World	335.5	340.0	336.2	2.43	2.48	2.49	2.48	814.1	844.6	838.8	835.2
United States	43.6	45.5	41.5	5.46	6.04	6.09	6.09	237.7	274.9	252.9	252.9
Total Foreign	291.9	294.5	294.7	1.97	1.93	1.99	1.98	576.3	569.7	585.9	582.3
Maj. Foreign Exporters	26.7	26.7	25.6	2.37	2.41	2.54	2.43	63.2	64.4	64.8	62.2
Argentina	6.1	5.7	5.2	3.07	3.01	2.94	2.69	18.9	17.1	15.4	14.0
Australia	5.5	5.2	4.6	1.58	1.49	1.50	1.50	8.6	7.8	6.9	6.9
Canada	8.0	8.3	8.4	2.74	3.02	3.29	3.29	22.0	25.0	27.6	27.6
South Africa	4.8	4.9	4.9	1.88	1.79	2.08	1.90	9.0	8.9	10.5	9.3
Thailand	2.2	2.6	2.5	2.11	2.20	1.92	1.76	4.7	5.7	4.4	4.4
Major Importers	110.0	109.0	108.2	2.57	2.62	2.65	2.65	283.0	285.8	286.5	286.7
Eastern Europe	18.8	18.5	18.6	3.87	3.69	3.97	3.97	72.8	68.3	74.1	74.0
EC-12	20.0	20.2	19.7	4.49	4.36	4.12	4.12	89.6	88.3	81.2	81.2
Other W. Europe	3.4	3.5	3.4	4.07	3.76	3.57	3.63	14.0	13.1	12.1	12.3
Mexico	8.0	7.8	7.7	1.82	1.88	1.88	1.89	14.5	14.7	14.5	14.5
USSR	59.2	58.5	58.3	1.53	1.71	1.77	1.77	90.5	100.0	103.3	103.3
Other Major Import. 2/	0.6	0.5	0.4	2.86	3.04	3.07	3.07	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.3
Other Foreign	155.3	158.7	160.9	1.48	1.38	1.45	1.45	230.1	219.5	234.6	233.4
Brazil	12.4	12.7	13.6	1.82	1.63	1.92	1.92	22.5	20.7	26.1	26.1
China	29.2	27.0	27.9	3.30	3.05	3.10	3.10	96.2	82.3	86.6	86.6
India	39.3	39.1	39.5	0.80	0.67	0.71	0.71	31.4	26.1	28.0	28.0
Indonesia	3.1	2.4	3.0	1.71	1.77	1.67	1.76	5.3	4.3	5.5	5.4
Nigeria	8.4	9.0	9.4	1.03	1.03	1.02	1.02	8.7	9.2	9.6	9.6
Philippines	3.3	3.5	3.6	1.04	1.11	1.13	1.13	3.4	3.9	4.1	4.1
Turkey	4.1	4.2	4.3	2.02	2.00	2.08	2.15	8.3	8.4	9.1	9.3
Others	55.5	60.8	59.5	0.98	1.06	1.10	1.08	54.3	64.6	65.7	64.5
BARLEY											
World	80.1	80.8	80.3	2.18	2.19	2.24	2.24	174.4	176.8	180.3	180.3
United States	4.5	4.7	4.9	2.87	2.74	2.74	2.74	13.0	12.9	13.3	13.3
Total Foreign	75.5	76.1	75.5	2.14	2.15	2.21	2.21	161.4	163.9	167.0	167.0
Australia	3.5	3.3	2.3	1.58	1.49	1.52	1.52	5.6	4.9	3.5	3.5
Canada	4.6	4.8	5.0	2.25	2.61	3.03	3.03	10.3	12.4	15.0	15.0
China	3.8	3.5	3.3	1.94	1.81	1.83	1.83	7.3	6.2	6.1	6.1
Eastern Europe	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.02	3.72	3.77	3.79	17.1	16.4	17.0	17.1
EC-12	12.6	12.6	12.6	4.33	3.98	3.70	3.69	54.5	50.8	46.5	46.6
Other W. Europe	1.8	1.9	1.8	3.87	3.47	3.39	3.37	7.0	6.6	6.2	6.2
Turkey	3.0	3.1	3.2	2.00	1.87	1.77	1.97	6.0	5.8	6.3	6.3
USSR	30.4	29.1	29.9	1.37	1.60	1.72	1.72	41.8	46.5	51.5	51.5
Others	11.6	13.3	12.6	1.02	1.06	1.15	1.16	11.8	14.2	14.9	14.8

FOOTNOTES AT END OF TABLE

CONTINUED

Coarse Grains Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions (Continued)

Country/Region	---Area---			---Yield---				---Production---			
	Prel. Proj.			Prel. 1986/87 Proj.				Prel. 1986/87 Proj.			
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.
CORN	---Million Hectares---			---Metric Tons Per Hectare---				---Million Metric Tons---			
World	128.2	129.8	129.9	3.58	3.71	3.69	3.67	456.6	481.9	480.3	477.3
United States	29.1	30.4	28.0	6.70	7.41	7.49	7.49	194.9	225.5	209.6	209.6
Total Foreign	99.1	99.3	101.9	2.66	2.58	2.65	2.63	263.6	256.4	270.7	267.6
Maj. Foreign Exporters	9.2	9.3	9.5	2.61	2.60	2.62	2.38	24.0	25.5	24.6	22.6
Argentina	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.43	3.46	3.33	3.03	11.5	12.1	11.0	10.0
South Africa	3.9	4.0	4.0	2.09	2.00	2.32	2.13	8.1	8.1	9.5	8.5
Thailand	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.23	2.36	2.05	1.87	4.4	5.4	4.1	4.1
Major Importers	21.8	22.2	21.9	3.86	3.88	4.06	4.07	84.1	86.3	88.8	89.0
Eastern Europe	7.4	7.3	7.6	4.78	4.58	5.16	5.17	35.4	33.5	39.2	39.2
EC-12	3.8	3.9	3.9	6.02	6.53	6.36	6.35	23.1	25.7	25.0	25.0
Other W. Europe	0.2	0.2	0.2	7.41	6.30	7.26	7.87	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.9
Mexico	6.3	6.2	6.0	1.57	1.69	1.67	1.67	9.9	10.5	10.0	10.0
USSR	3.9	4.5	4.0	3.47	3.21	3.13	3.13	13.6	14.4	12.5	12.5
Other Maj. Import. 2/	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.85	4.05	4.10	4.10	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Other Foreign	68.1	67.3	70.5	2.28	2.15	2.21	2.21	155.6	144.5	157.2	156.0
Brazil	12.0	12.3	13.2	1.83	1.63	1.93	1.93	22.0	20.0	25.5	25.5
Canada	1.2	1.2	1.1	5.89	6.24	6.15	6.15	7.0	7.5	6.7	6.7
China	18.5	17.7	19.2	3.96	3.61	3.60	3.60	73.4	63.8	69.0	69.0
Egypt	0.8	0.8	0.8	4.46	4.60	4.70	4.73	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.9
India	5.8	5.9	5.9	1.46	1.17	1.22	1.22	8.4	6.9	7.2	7.2
Indonesia	3.1	2.4	3.0	1.71	1.77	1.67	1.76	5.3	4.3	5.5	5.4
Philippines	3.3	3.5	3.6	1.04	1.11	1.13	1.13	3.4	3.9	4.1	4.1
Zimbabwe	1.4	1.3	1.0	2.07	2.03	2.00	1.30	3.0	2.5	2.3	1.3
Others	21.9	22.2	22.7	1.34	1.43	1.45	1.45	29.3	31.8	33.0	32.9
SORGHUM											
World	44.5	46.6	44.9	1.49	1.51	1.46	1.46	66.4	70.3	65.7	65.4
United States	6.2	6.8	5.6	3.54	4.19	4.25	4.25	22.0	28.5	23.9	23.9
Total Foreign	38.3	39.8	39.3	1.16	1.05	1.06	1.06	44.3	41.8	41.7	41.5
Argentina	2.0	1.4	1.1	3.14	3.00	2.96	2.91	6.2	4.2	3.4	3.2
Australia	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.89	1.77	1.70	1.70	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.5
China	2.5	1.9	1.9	3.15	2.90	2.88	2.88	7.7	5.6	5.4	5.4
India	15.9	15.8	16.0	0.72	0.64	0.64	0.64	11.4	10.1	10.2	10.2
Mexico	1.3	1.3	1.4	3.15	2.85	2.96	2.96	4.1	3.7	4.0	4.0
Nigeria	3.2	3.3	3.3	1.14	1.08	1.09	1.09	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.6
South Africa	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.88	1.41	1.94	1.56	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.5
Sudan	3.4	5.9	5.0	0.32	0.64	0.70	0.70	1.1	3.8	3.5	3.5
Thailand	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.32	1.04	1.01	1.01	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Others	8.6	8.9	9.1	0.90	1.00	1.01	1.02	7.7	8.9	9.2	9.3

1/ Total of barley, corn, and sorghum shown below plus rye, oats, millet, and mixed grain.

2/ Japan, Republic of Korea, and Taiwan.

Rice Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	---Area---	---	---Yield---	---	---Production---	---	---Milling Rate---	---	---Production---
					(Rough Basis)				(Milled Basis)
	Prel. Proj.		Prel. 1986/87 Proj.		Prel. 1986/87 Proj.		Prel. 1986/87 Proj.		Prel. 1986/87 Proj.
: 1984/85 1985/86 1986/87	: 1984/85 1985/86 Mar.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Apr.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Mar.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Apr.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Mar.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Apr.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Mar.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Apr.	: 1984/85 1985/86 Mar.
	---Million Hectares---	---	---Metric Tons Per Hectare---	---	---Million Metric Tons---	---	---In Percent---	---	---Million Metric Tons---
World	144.4	144.4	144.4	3.25	3.26	3.25	68.07	68.05	68.05
United States	1.1	1.0	1.0	5.55	6.07	6.33	69.60	71.00	71.00
Total Foreign	143.3	143.4	143.4	3.23	3.24	3.22	68.05	67.98	68.02
Major Foreign Exporters									
Burma	4.7	4.7	4.7	3.15	3.17	3.15	62.50	62.50	62.50
Pakistan	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.49	2.35	2.54	66.66	66.67	66.66
Thailand	9.6	9.6	9.2	2.07	2.06	1.96	66.00	66.00	66.00
Major Importers									
EC-12	12.7	12.9	12.8	4.02	4.04	4.03	68.32	68.32	68.32
Indonesia	9.6	9.9	9.8	3.91	3.94	3.93	68.00	68.00	68.00
Nigeria	0.7	0.7	0.7	2.02	1.96	2.08	66.50	66.40	66.67
Republic of Korea	1.2	1.2	1.2	6.47	6.35	6.37	71.29	71.23	71.23
Other Maj. Import. *	0.8	0.8	0.7	2.66	2.66	2.66	65.55	65.57	65.57
Other Foreign	114.2	114.3	114.6	3.25	3.27	3.24	68.37	68.31	68.31
Australia	0.1	0.1	0.1	6.86	6.43	6.34	71.50	71.50	71.50
Bangladesh	10.1	10.4	10.5	2.16	2.18	2.26	66.66	66.66	66.66
Brazil	5.0	5.8	6.0	1.80	1.72	1.75	68.00	68.00	68.00
China	33.2	32.1	32.3	5.37	5.25	5.30	70.00	70.00	70.00
India	41.2	40.9	41.0	2.13	2.35	2.20	66.66	66.66	66.66
Japan	2.3	2.3	2.3	6.41	6.22	6.32	72.80	72.80	72.80
Philippines	3.2	3.4	3.5	2.55	2.67	2.69	65.00	65.00	65.00
USSR	0.7	0.7	0.6	3.95	3.83	4.33	65.00	65.00	65.00
Vietnam	5.7	5.7	5.8	2.70	2.63	2.70	65.00	65.00	65.00
Others	12.7	12.9	12.6	2.59	2.64	2.64	65.91	66.01	66.03

* / Hong Kong, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, and Saudi Arabia.

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FOREIGN PRODUCTION ESTIMATES DIVISION, FAS, USDA

Cotton Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	---Area---			---Yield---				---Production---			
	Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	1986/87	Proj.		Prel.	1986/87	Proj.	
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.
	---Million Hectares---			---Kilograms Per Hectare---				---Million 480-Pound Bales---			
World	33.9	31.7	29.8	566	543	508	507	88.1	78.9	69.7	69.5
United States 1/	4.2	4.1	3.4	673	706	620	615	13.0	13.4	9.8	9.7
Total Foreign	29.7	27.5	26.4	550	518	493	493	75.2	65.5	59.9	59.8
Maj. Foreign Exporters	14.8	12.9	12.0	791	755	730	731	53.8	44.6	40.3	40.3
Australia	0.2	0.2	0.1	1361	1485	1333	1333	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.9
Central America 2/	0.2	0.2	0.1	763	662	575	605	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4
China	6.9	5.1	4.4	903	805	807	807	28.7	19.0	16.3	16.3
Egypt	0.4	0.5	0.4	965	959	919	919	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.9
Mexico	0.3	0.2	0.2	844	992	943	943	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.7
Pakistan	2.2	2.4	2.4	451	522	559	559	4.6	5.7	6.1	6.1
Sudan	0.4	0.3	0.4	492	449	451	451	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7
Turkey	0.7	0.7	0.6	781	785	818	818	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.2
USSR	3.3	3.3	3.4	773	794	712	712	11.9	12.1	11.2	11.2
Major Importers 3/	0.3	0.3	0.3	715	799	818	834	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.3
Other Foreign	14.6	14.4	14.1	303	300	284	282	20.4	19.8	18.4	18.2
Argentina	0.4	0.3	0.3	383	372	340	363	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.6
Brazil	2.4	2.2	2.1	398	377	350	338	4.4	3.8	3.4	3.3
India	7.4	7.6	7.4	232	241	218	218	7.9	8.4	7.4	7.4
Syria	0.2	0.2	0.1	854	952	953	953	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
Others	4.1	4.1	4.1	343	334	340	341	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.4

1/ U.S. 1986/87 production is based on March 20 Census Bureau Cotton Ginnings Report.

2/ Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

3/ Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Japan, Hong Kong, Republic of Korea, and Taiwan.

APRIL 1987

FOREIGN PRODUCTION ESTIMATES DIVISION, FAS,

Oilseeds Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	---Area---			---Yield---				---Production---			
	Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	1986/87	Proj.		Prel.	1986/87	Proj.	
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.
	---Million Hectares---			---Metric Tons Per Hectare---				---Million Metric Tons---			
SOYBEANS											
World	53.89	52.03	52.21	1.73	1.86	1.90	1.92	93.08	96.74	99.43	99.98
United States	26.76	24.92	24.05	1.89	2.29	2.27	2.27	50.64	57.11	54.62	54.62
Total Foreign	27.14	27.10	28.16	1.56	1.46	1.59	1.61	42.44	39.62	44.81	45.36
Maj. Foreign Exporters	13.42	12.71	12.95	1.86	1.67	1.91	1.91	25.03	21.20	24.70	24.70
Argentina	3.27	3.35	3.65	2.06	2.18	2.11	2.11	6.75	7.30	7.70	7.70
Brazil	10.15	9.36	9.30	1.80	1.48	1.83	1.83	18.28	13.90	17.00	17.00
Other Foreign	13.71	14.39	15.21	1.27	1.28	1.32	1.36	17.41	18.42	20.11	20.66
Canada	0.42	0.43	0.41	2.26	2.47	2.44	2.44	0.94	1.05	0.99	0.99
China	7.29	7.72	8.24	1.33	1.36	1.34	1.40	9.70	10.50	11.00	11.55
Eastern Europe	0.51	0.52	0.50	1.49	1.12	1.47	1.44	0.76	0.58	0.75	0.72
India	1.24	1.30	1.35	0.77	0.75	0.81	0.81	0.96	0.98	1.10	1.10
Indonesia	0.90	0.91	1.00	0.97	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.87	0.89	0.98	0.98
Mexico	0.35	0.37	0.32	1.57	2.03	1.88	1.88	0.55	0.75	0.60	0.60
Paraguay	0.55	0.55	0.53	1.73	1.09	1.79	1.79	0.95	0.60	0.95	0.95
USSR	0.77	0.74	0.77	0.61	0.62	0.65	0.65	0.47	0.46	0.50	0.50
Others	1.69	1.86	2.10	1.31	1.41	1.56	1.56	2.22	2.62	3.25	3.28
COTTONSEED											
World	33.93	31.70	29.86	1.00	0.96	0.90	0.90	33.89	30.40	26.99	26.92
United States	4.20	4.14	3.44	1.11	1.16	1.02	1.02	4.67	4.79	3.50	3.50
Total Foreign	29.73	27.56	26.42	0.98	0.93	0.89	0.89	29.22	25.61	23.49	23.42
China	6.92	5.14	4.40	1.54	1.37	1.37	1.37	10.64	7.05	6.02	6.02
India	7.44	7.58	7.40	0.46	0.48	0.43	0.43	3.45	3.65	3.22	3.22
Pakistan	2.24	2.37	2.38	0.90	1.04	1.12	1.12	2.01	2.47	2.66	2.67
USSR	3.35	3.32	3.42	1.42	1.45	1.31	1.31	4.74	4.82	4.48	4.48
Others	9.79	9.15	8.82	0.86	0.83	0.81	0.80	8.38	7.63	7.12	7.04
PEANUTS											
World	17.74	18.25	18.94	1.11	1.12	1.07	1.07	19.74	20.51	20.52	20.36
United States	0.62	0.59	0.62	3.22	3.15	2.70	2.70	2.00	1.87	1.68	1.68
Total Foreign	17.12	17.66	18.32	1.04	1.06	1.02	1.02	17.74	18.64	18.85	18.68
Brazil	0.19	0.16	0.15	1.77	1.36	1.53	1.53	0.34	0.22	0.23	0.23
China	2.42	3.32	3.33	1.99	2.01	1.77	1.77	4.82	6.66	5.90	5.88
India	7.17	7.31	7.50	0.90	0.76	0.79	0.79	6.44	5.55	5.90	5.90
Senegal	0.87	0.61	0.83	0.64	0.97	0.85	0.85	0.56	0.59	0.70	0.70
South Africa	0.23	0.22	0.19	0.85	0.50	0.90	0.92	0.20	0.11	0.23	0.18
Sudan	0.74	0.48	0.55	0.53	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.39	0.35	0.40	0.40
Others	5.50	5.57	5.78	0.91	0.93	0.94	0.93	5.01	5.17	5.49	5.40

Country/Region	---Area---			---Yield---				---Production---			
	Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	1986/87 Proj.			Prel.	1986/87 Proj.		
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.	1984/85	1985/86	Mar.	Apr.
	---Million Hectares---			---Metric Tons Per Hectare---				---Million Metric Tons---			
SUNFLOWERSEED											
World	14.34	15.61	14.23	1.25	1.24	1.34	1.33	17.97	19.33	19.22	18.91
United States	1.49	1.15	0.79	1.14	1.24	1.53	1.53	1.70	1.43	1.21	1.21
Total Foreign	12.84	14.46	13.44	1.27	1.24	1.32	1.32	16.27	17.90	18.01	17.70
Argentina	2.35	3.14	2.20	1.45	1.31	1.25	1.14	3.40	4.10	3.00	2.50
China	1.01	1.47	1.05	1.68	1.18	1.43	1.43	1.70	1.73	1.50	1.50
EC-12	1.65	1.90	2.01	1.40	1.42	1.51	1.51	2.30	2.70	3.04	3.04
East Europe	1.16	1.21	1.38	1.82	1.66	1.91	2.01	2.11	2.02	2.60	2.77
USSR	3.91	4.05	3.95	1.16	1.29	1.34	1.34	4.53	5.23	5.30	5.30
Others	2.77	2.68	2.85	0.81	0.79	0.91	0.91	2.23	2.13	2.57	2.60
RAPESEED											
World	13.50	14.42	15.08	1.26	1.29	1.31	1.31	16.95	18.53	19.74	19.81
Total Foreign	13.50	14.42	15.08	1.26	1.29	1.31	1.31	16.95	18.53	19.74	19.81
Canada	3.09	2.80	2.78	1.11	1.25	1.40	1.40	3.43	3.51	3.89	3.89
China	3.41	4.49	4.94	1.23	1.25	1.19	1.19	4.21	5.61	5.87	5.87
EC-12	1.18	1.28	1.28	2.92	2.85	2.83	2.84	3.43	3.63	3.62	3.62
East Europe	0.81	0.91	0.94	2.22	2.19	2.34	2.37	1.79	1.99	2.18	2.24
India	3.99	3.80	4.00	0.77	0.69	0.75	0.75	3.07	2.64	3.00	3.00
Others	1.02	1.13	1.15	1.00	1.02	1.03	1.05	1.02	1.15	1.18	1.20
FLAXSEED											
World	4.48	4.52	4.56	0.52	0.52	0.60	0.60	2.31	2.36	2.73	2.73
United States	0.22	0.24	0.28	0.82	0.89	1.06	1.06	0.18	0.21	0.29	0.29
Total Foreign	4.26	4.28	4.29	0.50	0.50	0.57	0.57	2.13	2.15	2.44	2.44
Argentina	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.86	0.64	0.73	0.73	0.63	0.48	0.55	0.55
Canada	0.72	0.74	0.81	0.96	1.22	1.33	1.33	0.69	0.90	1.07	1.07
India	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.28	0.27	0.29	0.29	0.39	0.37	0.40	0.40
USSR	1.16	1.10	1.06	0.21	0.18	0.22	0.22	0.25	0.20	0.24	0.24
Others	0.25	0.29	0.27	0.69	0.65	0.67	0.68	0.17	0.19	0.19	0.18
MAJOR OILSEEDS TOTAL	137.87	136.52	134.88	1.33	1.38	1.40	1.40	183.93	187.87	188.64	188.72
COPRA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.73	5.37	5.33	5.28
PALM KERNEL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.26	2.55	2.52	2.52
TOTAL OILSEEDS	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	190.93	195.79	196.50	196.52
PALM OIL *	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6.95	8.21	8.06	8.14

* Not included in total oilseeds.

NOTE: The table below presents a 5-year record of the differences between the April projections and the final estimates. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the April projections and the final estimates have averaged 3.9 million tons (0.8 percent) ranging from 0.2 to 6.8 million tons. The April projection has been below the final estimate two times and above three times.

RELIABILITY OF APRIL PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATE, 1981/82-85/86 1/						
	AVERAGE	AVERAGE	SMALLEST	LARGEST	BELOW FINAL	ABOVE FINAL	
	PERCENT	---MILLION METRIC TONS---			NUMBER OF YEARS 2/		
WHEAT							
WORLD	0.8	3.9	0.2	6.8	2	3	
U.S.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0	1	
FOREIGN	1.0	3.9	0.2	6.8	2	3	
COARSE GRAINS 3/							
WORLD	0.6	4.5	3.4	7.1	3	2	
U.S.	0.2	0.3	0.0	1.3	1	1	
FOREIGN	0.9	4.7	3.4	7.1	3	2	
RICE (MILLED)							
WORLD	1.5	4.3	0.8	9.0	5	0	
U.S.	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0	1	
FOREIGN	1.5	4.3	0.8	9.0	5	0	
SOYBEANS							
WORLD	1.8	1.6	0.6	2.5	3	2	
U.S.	1.2	0.6	0.0	1.3	1	3	
FOREIGN	2.7	1.0	0.0	2.2	5	0	
COTTON		---MILLION 480-LB. BALES---					
WORLD	1.2	1.0	0.1	3.0	4	1	
U.S.	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0	1	
FOREIGN	1.5	1.0	0.1	3.0	4	1	
UNITED STATES		---MILLION BUSHELS---					
=====							
CORN	0.2	8	0	38	0	1	
SORGHUM	0.2	1	0	4	0	1	
BARLEY	0.5	3	0	11	1	1	
OATS	0.1	0	0	2	1	0	

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1985/86 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total five if projection was the same as the final estimate.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

WEST GERMANY: LAND SET-ASIDE PROGRAM MADE MORE ATTRACTIVE

The Minister of Agriculture of Lower Saxony announced a continuation of the original German test program, initiated last year, for retiring land from grain production. This policy marks the first steps in gaining experience with set-aside programs in Germany and could represent a switch toward curtailing over-production. Set-aside payments varied according to land productivity. Farmers have shown only little interest in the program because returns from a hectare of grain planted are much above these payments. Growers also feared they would be handicapped if some sort of production reference or base acreage for grain were to be established. To reach a goal of 100,000 hectares of green fallow in the 1987/88 crop year, the compensation has been increased and the per farm maximum land participation has been increased from 20 to 35 hectares.

MALAYSIA: OIL PALM EXPANSION PROJECTS

Sarawak Oil Palms SDN. BHD., the largest commercial plantation company in the east Malaysian state of Sarawak, has decided to invest US\$40 million to plant another 5,000 hectares of oil palms. The company already has 4,400 hectares of oil palms.

The Sarawak Government has agreed to transfer 8,000 hectares of land in the southern district of Lundu to the Federal Land Development Authority (FELDA) for development. Between 600 and 700 hectares are being cleared for cultivation of oil palms and rubber trees.

COSTA RICA: PALM OIL PRODUCTION TO INCREASE

Domestically produced palm oil continues to be the major vegetable oil used in margarine and shortening. Crude palm oil production in 1986 and 1987 is forecast at 44,700 and 49,500 tons, respectively, and is forecast to increase sharply in the next several years. If oil palms are planted on existing plantations, production could range from 86,000 to 112,000 tons in the next 15 years according to a report from the U.S. agricultural attache.

Currently, Compania Bananera de Costa Rica Plantations dominates the industry and accounts for about 15,000 hectares, or over 80 percent of total oil palm area. During 1986, land from the former banana plantations of United Brands was planted to oil palms and cocoa. In the future, fixed pricing of crude palm oil by the Government is likely to restrict price movements and inhibit further expansion of oil palm area.

EL SALVADOR: COTTON PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

The sharp decline in cotton production since the 1980's is attributed to the Agrarian Reform, regional instability, and decreasing export prices. Prior to the 1980's, El Salvador was the third largest cotton producing country in Central America. The 1986/87 crop is estimated at 45,000 bales, compared to an average of 313,000 bales produced during the late 1970's.

PARAGUAY: COTTON FARMERS DISSATISFIED WITH LOW PRICES AND LACK OF CREDIT

Grower dissatisfaction with low minimum prices and lack of credit is responsible for an estimated 11-percent decline in planted area during 1986/87. The Government of Paraguay, however, came out in February of 1987 with new minimum prices and a credit program in order to speed up the harvesting of the crop. The new price of 200 guaranies per kilogram is significantly higher than the minimum official price set for the 1986 crop of 150 guaranies per kilogram. While the official price is the minimum price that the Government expects the gins to pay farmers, in reality they pay much less. Gins blame low international prices on their inability to pay the full price. In 1986, farmers received an average of 120 guaranies per kilogram. Cotton is the main cash crop of small farmers with an estimated 140,000 families involved out of a total of 250,000 farmers.

CHINA: 1987 COTTON POLICY EMPHASIZES INCREASED OUTPUT

The procurement policy for the 1987 cotton crop has been modified once again. Originally, the proportion of cotton priced at the bonus price was increased from 40 to 50 percent for cotton grown in the south and from 60 to 70 percent for cotton grown in the north. The change calls for the procurement price for cotton to be the same in both the northern and southern growing areas. Specifically, 30 percent of the cotton will be sold at the old quota price and 70 percent at the bonus price. For the 1986 crop, the ratio was 40 percent at the bonus price for northern growing areas and 60 percent at the bonus price for southern growing regions. This year, when cotton contracts were signed, farmers were given coupons for a portion of the fertilizer bonus. In general, the 70 kilograms of fertilizer specified in the contract per 100 kilograms of cotton produced is more than needed for cotton and can be used on other crops.

CANADA: PLANTING INTENTIONS SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED

Statistics Canada released the results of its 1987 planting intentions survey for all grains. These statistics, together with the April USDA harvested area estimates for the Canadian crops harvested in 1986 are as follows:

	<u>1987</u> <u>Area</u>	<u>1986</u> <u>Area</u>	<u>% Change</u> <u>In Area</u>
(Million Hectares)			
Wheat, winter	0.534	0.799	-33
Wheat, spring	10.434	11.536	-10
Wheat, durum	2.226	1.882	+18
Wheat, total	13.194	14.217	-7
Oats	1.862	1.830	+2
Barley	5.601	5.095	+10
Rye	0.327	0.341	-4
Corn	1.012	1.087	-4
Rapeseed	2.693	2.776	-3
Flaxseed	0.639	0.805	-21
Soybeans	0.433	0.405	+7
Summer fallow	7.993	7.648	+5

Although durum area is expected to be up 18 percent in response to strong world prices, winter wheat area is down 33 percent due to generally wet conditions during the fall planting season, and total wheat area is expected to be down 7 percent. Barley area is projected to be up 10 percent as growers react to record 1986/87 barley exports. In a break with the 7-year downward trend from 10.4 million hectares in 1980, summer fallow area is expected to be up 5 percent.

UNITED STATES: PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS RESULTS RELEASED

The National Agricultural Statistics Service reported in the March 31, 1987, Prospective Plantings report that the intended 1987 feed grains area (corn, oats, barley, and sorghum) of 42.9 million hectares is down 11 percent from last year. Area planted to food grains (wheat, rice and rye), at 28.1 million hectares, is down 10 percent from 1986. Oilseeds area (soybeans, cotton, peanuts, sunflower, and flaxseed) is expected to total 28.8 million hectares, down 6 percent from last year.

All states expect their corn acreage to decline from 1986. As in previous years, oats will be seeded as a cover crop on acreage under Government programs, so that an increase in intended area does not necessarily imply an increase in acreage harvested for grain. If the reported intentions are realized, soybean area will be the smallest since 1976. Cotton area is expected to total 4.19 million hectares, up 3 percent from 1986.

1987 WINTER GRAIN PROSPECTS IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE
OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

SUMMARY: Winter grains account for about one-third of the world total wheat and coarse grain output. Winter grain production prospects in the Northern Hemisphere outside the United States are mixed. The outlook is favorable in western Europe, South Asia, and East Asia. Surface soil moisture conditions are favorable in all major grain growing regions in the USSR; however, in European USSR a delayed start of spring fieldwork is attributed to cold weather and a persistent, heavy snow cover. This follows planting delays in some areas in the autumn because of dryness and a severe winter which is believed to have resulted in above-average winterkill. Dry weather at planting and very cold winter temperatures have negatively affected grains in most Balkan countries. The post-monsoon rains were deficient in much of the rainfed grain areas of South Asia while fall precipitation was below normal in China. Dry conditions have also affected winter grains, particularly barley, in Morocco. Canadian winter grains experienced very wet planting weather followed by a warm, dry winter that depleted surface soil moisture in many areas. The area sown to winter grains during the fall of 1986 for harvest in 1987 in the Northern Hemisphere, outside the United States, is estimated to be down from last year.

WESTERN EUROPE: Winter grain conditions are generally favorable across Europe. Fall weather during planting and establishment in northwest Europe was excellent and much superior to last year. However, subsequent frigid temperatures in January and March leave the question of greater-than-normal winterkill and a late spring unanswered at this time. Generally, however, the outlook is positive for France, West Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Benelux countries. In southern Europe, conditions are seen as favorable in spite of below normal winter rains; yields will be more dependent on receiving normal spring rainfall. Total winter grains area is projected to increase marginally from last year.

- o France: Lack of rain from mid-September to mid-October caused some delay in the early growth of soft winter wheat. Winter cereals area is projected up marginally from last year. Fall weather was cool and moist, contrasting with the dry conditions of a year earlier. Extremely cold temperatures in early January and early March may have caused some yield loss, particularly to the barley crop in the North Picardy region. Overall, winter grains condition is favorable.
- o United Kingdom: Winter grains area is estimated to be down marginally this year and some stands, especially wheat, appear somewhat thin and stunted due to record cold temperatures in January and early February. Winter crops have, however, received sufficient moisture that may partially offset the damage received. Winter barley areas appear in better shape due to a generally heavier snow cover than the southern winter wheat areas. Production prospects appear overall good assuming normal spring weather. Last year, the crop experienced cold, wet late-season weather.
- o West Germany: Ideal planting weather contributed to expanded winter grain area. Winter wheat area is expected to rise 2 percent from last year. Thick snow protected areas from the very cold January temperatures; winter barley in northern regions may have suffered greater-than-normal winterkill. The outlook is favorable.

- o Italy: Weather conditions in most of northern Italy were excellent during the fall planting period. Some areas of central Italy, however, experienced low soil moisture. Mild temperatures over the peninsula alleviated most of the negative effects of low rainfall and lack of snow cover from November through January. Winter grain area is expected to be up marginally from last year.
- o Spain: Winter wheat planted area is expected to have increased about 3 percent from last year. Precipitation was adequate through most of the fall and winter. Conditions since January have been favorable although normal rains in April-May will be necessary to sustain the current positive outlook.
- o Greece: Wheat area is estimated down 4 percent from last year while barley area is projected unchanged. Many winter grain areas were warm and dry during the winter months. Foliar "burn" may have occurred in some regions, particularly Thrace, affected by the unusually cold temperatures and heavy snows of early March. However, unusually cold temperatures and heavy snows in early March may have caused some damage (foliar burn) to crop areas in the Thrace region.
- o Belgium/Luxembourg: Winter grains were sown under excellent weather conditions with subsequent mild temperatures through December. The area of winter wheat and barley is expected to be virtually unchanged from last year. Some freeze damage may have occurred in February and March in areas of spotty snow cover.

EASTERN EUROPE: Northern areas of eastern Europe experienced ideal conditions during planting, and winter crops entered dormancy in excellent condition. In the Balkan countries, a very dry fall delayed the planting and germination of winter crops. The potential exists for higher-than-normal winterkill in many areas of Eastern Europe from two abnormal weather events since the first of the year. First, record-setting low temperatures in January adversely affected areas that lacked adequate snow cover. Then, many areas experienced a period of unseasonably warm weather in February, which may have brought winter crops out of dormancy, followed by a cold wave in early March. In other areas, the latter event delayed the winter crops emergence from dormancy and made for a late spring.

- o Hungary: Extremely dry seedbed conditions until mid-October led to delayed germination of winter crops, which were planted on roughly the same area as last year. Limited snow cover in the principal grain producing regions during an extremely cold period in early January, together with a warming trend in late February followed by a period of record cold temperatures in early March, raised the potential for extensive winterkill.
- o East Germany: Winter grains were sown under favorable weather conditions on the planned acreage, which is up 5 percent from last year. Mild weather and satisfactory soil moisture conditions during the late fall resulted in good crop establishment prior to dormancy. The principal winter wheat growing areas were protected from above normal winterkill by adequate snow cover during unusually cold periods in January and March. However, total barley area lost to winterkill could be substantial and more than twice last year's level.

- o Poland: Winter grains were sown under ideal weather conditions on roughly the same acreage as last year. The plants went into the winter in very good condition due to favorable soil moisture in the fall. Adequate snow cover in the principal growing areas during January protected most of the crop from above normal winterkill. Unusually cold weather during the first half of March, when snow cover was sparse, raised the possibility of more widespread damage to the crop.
- o Yugoslavia: Despite subnormal soil moisture conditions in the fall, which delayed planting and germination, winter wheat area is up slightly. Normal amounts of precipitation during the winter months recharged soil moisture levels, and adequate snow cover in most areas during January protected most of the crop from above normal winterkill. In many areas, the crop was brought out of dormancy by unseasonably warm weather in February, which was followed by 3 weeks of unusually cold weather when snow cover was spotty. This event raised the potential for extensive winterkill and set the remaining crop back 2-3 weeks in most areas.
- o Romania: Unusually dry weather throughout the fall delayed planting and germination of the winter grains crop. Although soil moisture levels were improved by near normal winter precipitation, the winter crop was further stressed by two periods of extremely cold temperatures in January and early March, and the potential exists for crop yields that are well below average.
- o USSR: A chronology of conditions affecting the Soviet winter grain crop follows:

Precipitation during September and October in the Northern winter grain regions--the Baltics, Belorussia, the Central Region, and the Volga Vyatsk--was sufficient for winter grain emergence. However, to the south, precipitation was below normal in much of the Ukraine, North Caucasus, Central Black Soil Zone, and the Lower Volga. Moisture deficiency in some places caused the planting of winter crops to be delayed. Reportedly, in others, seeding was not done at all because of prolonged dryness.

During November, precipitation was below normal over most winter grain areas except in the Baltics, the Volga Vyatsk, and the Upper Volga. Temperatures were well below normal over most of European USSR, inhibiting crop development.

Precipitation in December was near-to-above-normal over most areas and winter grains remained dormant during the month.

January was the coldest in recent history (36 years) in the Baltics, Belorussia, the western Ukraine, the Central Region, and the Central Black Soil Zone. Further south, below-normal temperatures occurred in the southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus. January precipitation was above-to-much-above-normal over most winter grain areas, providing deep snow cover.

Precipitation during February was below normal over much of European USSR. Temperatures were slightly above normal across the northern half of the area and slightly below normal in the south. Grains remained dormant everywhere.

In early March, extreme cold reached as far south as the central Ukraine. By the end of the month, deep snow cover remained in the northern North Caucasus, Volga Valley, Central Region, Central Black Soil Zone, and Volga Vyatsk. Crop areas in the Baltics, Belorussia, the southern Ukraine, and southwestern North Caucasus were without significant snow cover.

Since April 1, temperatures have risen gradually in European USSR and have been accompanied by light rains in the southeast and southwest. As of April 6, while the western Ukraine was free of snow, the snow cover extended eastward through the central Ukraine, central North Caucasus, and the lower Volga. Normally, the snow cover is gone from this area by early March. Winter grains in the south remained dormant about 2 to 3 weeks later than normal. However, rising temperatures in crop areas adjacent to the Black Sea coast promoted crop development.

According to an article in Izvestiya on February 5, winter crops in the Soviet Union had "perished" on about 9 million hectares because of harsh weather conditions. This statement suggests that nearly a quarter of the estimated 37 million hectares reportedly sown to winter crops had been affected.

Cold weather and persistent, heavy snow cover are causing a delayed start of spring fieldwork in European USSR. Time, therefore, has become a crucial element to be monitored in that part of the country where the bulk of the winter grains and a significant part of the spring grains are grown. Surface soil moisture conditions are favorable in all the major grain growing regions of the USSR.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

- o Morocco: Weather conditions for winter grains have been less favorable than for last year's record crop. Rainfall was much below normal in most producing areas throughout December and the first half of January. The southern growing regions, where barley is predominant, have been particularly dry and were also drought-affected last year. Winter grain area is estimated down 8 percent from the 1986 level. Rains returned to most areas in late February but yield prospects remain only average.
- o Algeria: The 1987 winter grain crop was sown under favorable conditions. More area is expected to be planted in durum while fewer hectares apparently will be devoted to soft wheat and barley; total area is projected to increase this year. Freezing temperatures during the first week of April in eastern Algeria may have damaged some grains. Growing conditions have been favorable thus far.
- o Tunisia: In sharp contrast to last year's drought, fall and winter rains were 15 percent above normal. Sown area of winter wheat and barley are estimated up about 15 percent from a year ago. Normal March-May precipitation and temperatures will be necessary to maintain the currently favorable yield prospects.

ASIA

- o India: The post-monsoon rains, necessary for wheat sowing, were generally deficient over most of the wheat belt. A severe cold wave affected northern India during the second half of December and may have injured wheat seedlings. Winter wheat yields in the northwest are expected to remain at last year's level although some decline is expected in the primarily rainfed cropping regions due to inadequate winter rains. Although overall winter grains yield prospects do not appear as favorable as last year, area is expected to be up about 1 percent.
- o Pakistan: Widespread summer and fall rains provided good soil moisture for winter wheat sowing. Some shortages of fertilizer and late planting due to delays in the harvest of rice and cotton have been reported, however. Wheat area is expected to be up marginally over last year and the condition of the crop is very good.
- o China: Fall precipitation was below normal in many winter grain areas. However, soil moisture was adequate for planting and the present outlook is favorable. Dry fall and winter weather, however, affected many of the North China Plain provinces, particularly Hebei and Shandong. Timely mid-March rains benefited grains breaking dormancy but normal spring rainfall will be required to maintain favorable yield prospects. The very warm winter may also increase the occurrence of pests. Winter wheat area is estimated to be down slightly although total winter grain area is projected to rise by about 1 percent. The present outlook for winter grains is favorable.

MIDDLE EAST

- o Turkey: Extremely dry weather throughout the fall delayed sowing and left the winter wheat crop weakened prior to dormancy. Two weeks of mild temperatures in mid-February were followed by a period of record cold and heavy snow in early March, setting the crop's development back at least a month. Although the loss to winterkill from this cold spell is not expected to be exceptional, the crop was already stressed by dryness and the potential exists for reductions in yields due to the late spring.
- o Israel: After 3 years of drought, which resulted in sharp declines in wheat production and the near total failure of the barley crop, most major grain producing areas received levels of precipitation in the fall that were well above last year's. Rainfall levels throughout the winter have been near normal, and the prospects for a significant increase in production appear good.
- o Syria: Although planting conditions were much better than a year ago, the area to winter grains was down slightly, due to a wheat seed shortage. Favorable rains in the fall were followed by winter precipitation levels well below normal, but close to last year's levels. Overall, production is forecast by the Syrian Government to be up slightly from last year.
- o Jordan: Better than average rains during the fall and winter helped establish the winter grains crop. Planted area is above average, and total production is expected to exceed last year's level.

NORTH AMERICA

- o Mexico: Area sown to winter wheat is down significantly from last year, as farmers have attempted to control disease problems by shifting out of wheat and into other crops. The winter wheat crop has benefited from favorable weather, including winter rains which raised reservoirs to satisfactory levels. It is expected that yields should approach record levels.
- o Canada: Excessive moisture during the seeding period caused a reduction in the acreage sown to winter wheat. Warm, dry weather for most of the winter, from December through February, has left soil moisture levels extremely low, and may retard the development of the crop after it comes out of dormancy.

Note: The forecast of wheat and coarse grain area, yield, and production for the 1987/88 year will appear in the May edition of the World Crop Production Report.

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